

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

SAVERIO CARL FALCO ET AL.

CASE NO.: BB1126 USDIV

APPLICATION NO.: UNKNOWN

GROUP ART UNIT: UNKNOWN

FILED: HEREWITH

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: PLANT BRANCHED-CHAIN AMINO ACID
BIOSYNTHETIC ENZYMEPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the captioned application as follows and consider the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:**Please replace the following paragraphs:****Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3:**

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Application No. 09/173,300, filed October 15, 1998, ^{now pat # 6,451,681} which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/063,423, filed October 28, 1997.

Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 7:

Figure 2 (A-C) depicts the amino acid sequence alignments between the dihydroxyacid dehydratase from corn clone cr1.pk0032.c4 (SEQ ID NO:2), soybean contig assembled from clones se3.pk0006.g4, and ses9c.pk001.o8 (SEQ ID NO:4), wheat clone wkm2c.pk005.c12 (SEQ ID NO:6), and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (NCBI gi Accession No. 1170543, SEQ ID NO:7). Amino acids which are conserved among all sequences are indicated with a plus sign (+) while those conserved only within the plant sequences are indicated by an asterisk (*).

Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 13:

Figure 3 (A-C) depicts the amino acid sequence alignments between the branched chain amino acid transaminase from corn clone cc71se-b.pk0008.b5 (SEQ ID NO:9), corn clone cen6.pk0003.b5 (SEQ ID NO:11), corn clone cta1n.pk0070.e7 (SEQ ID NO:13), rice clone rls24.pk0025.f6 (SEQ ID NO:15), soybean clone ses8w.pk0032.e9 (SEQ ID NO:17), wheat clone wlm96.pk027.n2 (SEQ ID NO:19), and *Bacillus subtilis* (NCBI gi Accession No. 1706292, SEQ ID NO:20). Amino acids which are conserved among all sequences are